

16138 U.S. PTO
031104

PATENT
DOCKET 02LF-1

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

17497 U.S. PTO
10/798647

031104

NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s): STEPHEN J. LAFONTAINE

For (title): METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR INSTALLING UNDERGROUND PIPE

1. Type of Application

This new application is for a(n) (check one)
applicable item below):

- ☒ Original
- ☐ Design
- ☐ Plant
- ☐ Divisional
- ☐ Continuation
- ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP)

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR. 1.10

I hereby certify that this New Application Transmittal and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on March 11, 2004 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number EK380557371US addressed to the: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Robert R. Meads
Name of person mailing paper

Robert R. Meads
Signature of person mailing paper

2. **Benefit of Prior U.S. Application(s) (35 USC 120)**

[] The new application being transmitted claims the benefit of prior U.S. application _____ filed, referenced under the heading "RELATED APPLICATION" in the new application.

3. **Papers Enclosed Which Are Required For Filing Date Under 37 CFR 1.53(b) (Regular or 37 CFR 1.153 (Design) Application)**

25 Pages of specification and claims
6 Sheets of drawing
 ☒ formal
 ☐ informal
1 page of Abstract

4. **Additional papers enclosed**

- ☐ Preliminary Amendment
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (37 CFR 1.98)
- ☐ Form PTO-1449
- ☐ Citations
- ☐ Declaration of Biological Deposit
- ☐ Submission of "Sequence Listing," computer readable copy and/or amendment pertaining thereto for bio-technology invention containing nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence.
- ☐ Authorization of Attorney(s) to Accept and Follow instructions from Representative
- ☐ Special Comments
- ☐ Other

5. **Declaration or oath**

☒ Enclosed

executed by (check all applicable boxes)

☒ inventor(s)

☐ legal representative of inventor(s).
37CFR 1.42 or 1.43

☐ joint inventor or person showing a proprietary interest on behalf of inventor who refused to sign or cannot be reached.

☐ this is the petition required by
37 CFR 1.47 and the statement required
by 37 CFR 1.47 is also attached.
See item 13 below for fee.

☐ Not Enclosed.

☐ Application is made by a person authorized under
37 CFR 1.41(c) on behalf of all the above named
inventor(s).

☐ Showing that the filing is authorized

6. **Inventorship Statement**

[] Are not the same. However, each inventor at the time he made or contributed to a claimed invention was an employee of or consultant to the Rainin Instrument Co. Inc. the assignee of this patent application and the claimed inventions.

☐ the attached translation is a verified translation. 37 CFR 1.52(d).

☐ will follow.

Certified copy(ies) of application(s)

| (country) | (appln. no.) | (filed) |
|-----------|--------------|---------|
|-----------|--------------|---------|

| (country) | (appln. no.) | (filed) |
|-----------|--------------|---------|
| | | |

| (country) | (appln. no.) | (filed) |
|-----------|--------------|---------|
| | | |

☐ will follow.

A. ☒ Regular application

CLAIMS AS FILED

| <u>Number filed</u> | <u>Number Extra</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Fee</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Basic Fee | | | |
| (37 CFR 1.16(a)) | | \$750.00 | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Total Claims | 25 - 20 = 5 X | \$18.00 = | 90.00 |
| (37 CFR 1.16(c)) | | | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Independent Claims | 6 - 3 = 3 X | \$84.00 = | 252.00 |
| (37 CFR 1.16(b)) | | | |

Multiple dependent claim(s), if any \$280.00
(37 CFR 1.16(d))

- ☐ Amendment canceling extra claims enclosed.
- ☐ Amendment deleting multiple-dependencies enclosed.
- ☐ Fee for extra claims is not being paid at this time.

Filing Fee Calculation \$1092.00

- B. ☐ Design application
37 CFR 1.16(f)

Filing Fee Calculation

- C. ☐ Plant Application
37 CFR 1.16(g)

Filing fee calculation

11. Small Entity Statement(s)

- ☒ Verified Statement(s) that this is a filing by a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is (are) attached.

Filing Fee Calculation \$546.00
(50% of A, B or C above)

12. Request for International-Type Search (37 CFR 1.104(d))
(complete, if applicable)

- ☐ Please prepare an international-type search report for this application at the time when national examination on the merits takes place.

13. Fee Payment Being Made At This Time

- ☐ Not Enclosed
☐ No filing fee is to be paid at this time
- ☒ Enclosed
☒ basic filing fee \$546.00
☐ recording assignment
37 CFR 1.21(h)
☐ petition fee for filing by other than
all the inventors or person on behalf
of the inventor where inventor refused
to sign or cannot be reached. \$
37 CFR 1.47 and 1.17(h)
Total fees enclosed \$546.00

14. Method of Payment of Fees

- ☒ Check in the amount of \$546.00
☐ Charge Account No. _____ in the amount of
\$ _____ A duplicate of this transmittal is
attached.


15. Authorization to Change Additional Fees

- ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the
following additional fees by this paper and during the
entire pendency of this application to Account
No. _____:
- ☐ 37 CFR 1.16(a), (f) or (g) (filing fees)
☐ 37 CFR 1.16(b), (c) and (d) (presentation
of extra claims)
☐ 37 CFR 1.16(e) (surcharge for filing the
basic filing fee and/or declaration on a date
later than the filing date of the
application)
☐ 37 CFR 1.17 (application processing fees)
☐ 37 CFR 1.18 (issue fee at or before mailing of
Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b))

16. Instructions As to Overpayment

- ☐ credit Account No. _____
☒ refund

Reg. No. 22,796


SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

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ROBERT R. MEADS